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DUTCH HAVEN

AN AMISH COUNTRY LANDMARK

Travelers have been traversing Lancaster County along Route 30 for well over two centuries. And for over 70 years, a very special building has signaled their arrival in Amish Country. It has a legitimate claim on being the area's oldest visitor landmark. Most importantly, it's the "place that made shoo-fly pie famous." That iconic structure is the **Dutch Haven** windmill.

With a history dating back to the beginnings of tourism here, the building is rich in memories. From the time it started as a luncheonette in 1920 right up to the present, it has remained most famous for shoo-fly pie, served warm with whipped cream. The Dutch Haven shoo-fly pie has even been mentioned in a TIME magazine article.

Today, as soon as you walk in, you'll be offered a free sample of that same delicious, gooey pie. Some 40,000 pies are baked

annually, using the original (secret) recipe. Visitors are still encouraged to "Take one for yourself or send one to someone nice." You can buy and ship pies home at the store or at their "online shop," where you'll find other local crafts as well.

Yes, Dutch Haven is much more than pies, with over 10,000 unique gift items, foods, and collectibles. Some of the most popular are jams, jellies, and canned goods, noodles, Amish pine furniture and cedar

chests, hex signs, quilted spice mats, Amish straw hats, jewelry and gemstones, Dutch Delft tiles, Amish dolls, onyx and soapstone animals, trivets, metal stars, Tiffany lamps, Amish romance novels, framed prints, plenty of T-shirts and postcards, and a tremendous selection of Amish-made outdoor furniture. It's an eclectic mix, to say the least.

As you explore, you'll discover lots of other "surprises" around every corner. Expect the unexpected! And don't forget the Amish-style root beer in the barrel.

Dutch Haven is open 7 days a week, Mon.-Thurs., 10 A.M.-6 P.M., Fri. 10 A.M.-7 P.M., Sat. 9 A.M.-8 P.M. and Sun. 9 A.M.-7 P.M. For more info about this Lancaster County landmark, call 717.687.0111. Look forward to your free sample when you walk in under the welcoming arms of the windmill for this truly is the place that made shoo-fly pie famous. 



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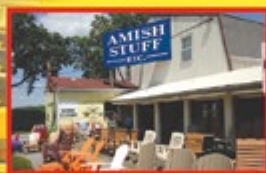


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AMISH HEIRLOOMS

By Rich Warner

Clip clop, clip clop, clip clop....

It's the familiar sound that you hear before you see the horse and buggy rounding the corner on this cold winter's day. From the steam coming from the horse's nose, you can tell he has been trotting a while to get to his destination, the non-descript barn on this snowy country road. Inside the building is a flurry of activity. Master craftsman measuring, cutting and sanding what will become a unique and beautiful table.

"Vee Bisht Dew!?", comes the greeting as I walk through the door of Elmer's barn. "Goot!", I reply, as sawdust particles float in the early morning air. It's a genuine and warm welcome into his workspace. The only sound I hear is that of his

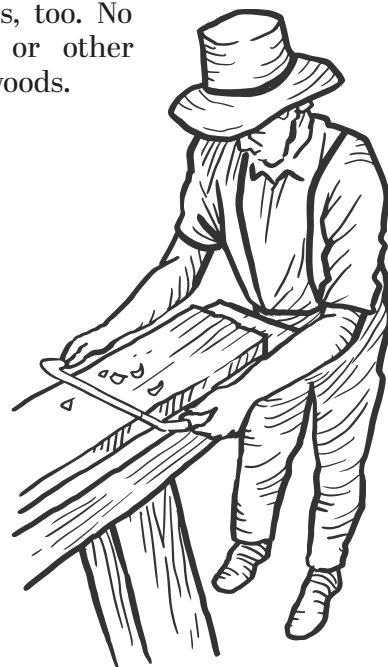
saws, ripping a board into what will become someone's new heirloom piece of furniture from Gish's. He wants to go over the plans we have for this piece, a custom desk, so that it will come out perfectly. "Measure twice and cut once't" he says happily. That is the way he does things and it's the way his father before him did it too. All of our craftsman have come from a long line of furniture makers in their family and have grown up in the different shops, each with their own specialty. They are masters of their craft, and while humble before God, they do take pride in their quality and workmanship. Elmer doesn't cut corners and isn't afraid to say so, "that's what the English furniture stores are for" he says with a sly grin.

The "English" stores are what they refer to as all of the large big box stores that you find in every strip mall in the country, selling pieces that are mass produced in faraway lands.

You won't find any veneers or particle board in his barn or in any of our stores, either. Solid wood is the way to go and is all sourced and produced regionally. Oh yeah, and it's all hard woods, too. No pine or other softwoods.



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All of our craftsmen have come from a long line of furniture makers in their family...

Every piece of Gish's furniture is made for you, the way you want it to be made! and that means something to our craftsmen. Now, not all craftsmen are created equally. Gish's has a partnership with around 45 different Amish master craftsmen. Each one has a specialty and works in concert with each other to create and craft the jaw dropping results that you see in our stores. We know all of our craftsmen personally and if their quality or finish doesn't meet our criteria, we do not show it on our showroom floor.

So once you pick the style you've been dreaming of and choose the stain color that you love, it's time for the finishing touch. Not usually thought of by the public, but never overlooked by our craftsmen, is the finish on each piece of furniture. It's called a catalyzed conversion varnish and it comes standard on every piece we sell! What does that mean to our customers? No more water marks! No other top coat would be good enough for our standards. The result is a resilient finish that maintains the beauty and charm of the original wood and truly makes our furniture, Heirloom quality!

When you come and visit Amish country, you expect things to be a little bit different from the busy hustle and bustle of the mega-cities. Well, that's how our furniture is made for you. Think of it as small batch furniture, made for a specific person, for a specific need...your needs. Our sales associates are ready to meet you and guide you through the process.

Come visit and see for yourself at either of our Lancaster County locations, on Route 30, Lincoln Highway, Lancaster or at the Shady Maple Complex, East Earl, PA. Locations are also in Camp Hill, PA and Cockeysville, MD. www.gishs.com



 SMITH BROTHERS
of B E R N E



Christmas Amish Style

By Sarah Price

No Christmas trees. No evergreen wreaths. No Santa Claus. No red bows or bells. From an outsider's point of view, it would be easy to believe that, to the Amish, Christmas would be the year's most important and most festive holiday. However, it's a day set aside for focusing on the family and God, not for gifts and abundance. After all, the Amish are called the Plain People.

So how do the Amish celebrate Christmas?

It varies from church district to church district but, for the most part, they wake up as early as usual, go about their regular chores, and celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ by sharing a nice supper with their extended family, in the late afternoon or early evening. From then on, their day is spent relaxing and enjoying each other's company. They might sing some hymns later in the evening when other family members join them for the evening meal. But it is definitely a low-key day.

You might be surprised to learn that Amish people do not attend church on Christmas, even if Christmas falls on a Sunday. While I understood about the missing Christmas trees, eggnog, bright decorations and gifts aplenty, I was quite taken aback when I learned of the lack of a Christmas Day church service. After all, even the most non-religious people I know still go to church at least twice a year: Christmas and Easter!

"It's about the family," one of my Amish friends told me. We were riding in a buggy, returning from a trip to a local yarn shop. She was teaching me how to knit scarves for holiday gifts. It was the perfect time to inquire about how she would celebrate the holidays. "And we have our Christmas service on the Sunday before or after Christmas. Sometimes we will have it on Saturday if Christmas falls on a Sunday. That way, everyone can enjoy the day of Christmas with their families."

After it was explained to me, it made sense. You see, the Amish don't celebrate church in a dedicated church building. Back in the 1600s, when the Anabaptist began to form their religion and strayed from the traditions of the Catholic Church, they met secretly in houses and barns. After all, they reasoned, didn't Jesus proclaim that "For where two or three have gathered together in My name, I am there in their midst" (Matthew 18:20)?

My friend continued by explaining that it would be too stressful for any one family to host the Christmas service as the days and weeks leading up to that service are spent cleaning the house and preparing food for the noon fellowship that follows the three-hour long service. While many help clean up afterwards, that host family would not have any time left in the day to enjoy their family or to travel to another district to see aging parents or siblings.

Gift giving is also quite minimal. Children may get a special toy from their parents such as ice skates or knitting supplies. Aunts and uncles might give younger children small gifts such as a wallet or a handkerchief. But that's the extent of gift-giving. The emphasis is on God, Jesus, and family...in that order. When I asked my friend if she had ever given her own parents a gift, she had to think about it and, finally, laughed as she said, "Why no! I don't think us children ever did!"

Over the past twenty-five years, I have continually learned from these amazing people who are so strong in their faith and their commitment to each other. This year, I intend to follow their example by simplifying my own Christmas and making certain that Christ remains at the center of it. 

*Sarah Price is a best-selling author of Amish Fiction. Some of her titles include **Fields of Corn**, **Valley of Hope**, **The Tomato Patch**, **The Quilting Bee**, **Amish Circle Letters**, and **A Gift of Faith: An Amish Christmas Story**. Her books can be found on [Amazon.com](https://www.amazon.com), [BN.com](https://www.bn.com), and [Kobo.com](https://www.kobo.com). She can be found on Facebook at www.facebook.com/fansofsarahprice and on her blog at www.sarahpriceauthor.com.*



HOME REMEDIES OR SUPERSTITIOUS VOOODOO? WHAT IS A PA DUTCH POWWOW?

Removing warts by the light of the waxing moon with a potato is one of the most common powwow experiences in southeastern Pennsylvania. Credit: Patrick J. Donmoyer, Director at the Pennsylvania German Cultural Heritage Center at Kutztown University

By Clinton Martin

In a city like New Orleans, ritualistic healing, voodoo, shamans, etc. are all very visible, even becoming tourist experiences that out-of-town visitors can enjoy. But in Lancaster County, these forces couldn't possibly exist, right?

In fact, over the last three hundred years, PA Dutch culture has, to one degree or another, employed ritualistic, faith-based healing in a practice called "powwowing." Remember that PA Dutch is a broad umbrella covering various German-speaking groups, all of which came over to America for their own reasons. The Amish and the Mennonite portion of the PA Dutch culture, often referred to as the Plain People, were probably the least likely to practice powwowing (at least overtly.) But the "Fancy Dutch" – the Lutherans, Catholics, and other Protestant groups, more openly practiced this form of healing.

Like many healing systems of this nature around the world, PA Dutch Powwowing combined matters of religion, superstition, prevailing healthcare wisdom, and knowledge of healing into one unified practice.

One of the most common ailments receiving the attention of the Powwow Doctor was the scourge of warts. Even in today's modern times, these nuisances ranging from mildly inconvenient to stingingly painful, can vex us and our most accomplished modern medicines. Not so long ago (as in - remaining in the memories of many older PA Dutch residents alive today) a person beset with

a wart problem would treat it by the moon-phase related, potato wielding, wart removal practice of Powwow.

Under the clear gaze of the full moon, the practitioner would cut a potato in half. Reciting certain Christian prayers in the PA Dutch German Dialect, the two halves of the potato would be rubbed on the wart. Then, the two halves of the potato would be brought back together, and the whole thing would be buried in the yard. As the potato rotted away, so too would the wart diminish away to naught.

Basing daily life practices on the phase of the moon was nothing new to PA Dutch settlers, as almanacs and other planners often contained much information about the moon and how it might affect planting, and harvesting successes or failure. The "potato prayer" was even recorded in a farmer's almanac from Oley PA in 1830...

Alles was ich sehe das wachse, und was ich fühle das vergehe im Namen des Patri, Fillii et Spiritu Sancti (All that I see may it increase, and what I touch, may it vanish, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit).

So, does Powwowing still exist in 2020? Well, the long and short of it is that it does in one form or another, but in far less visible ways. The intersection of faith, belief, prayer, healing, healthcare, and medicine is still very much alive, with the local PA Dutch culture employing elements of all of these facets into one unified approach, just perhaps with a more modern flair. 



Powwow Chair, Late 19th century, Manheim, Lancaster Co. exhibited by Thomas R. Brendle Museum Historic Schaefferstown. A chair used specifically for powwowing, upon which patients were seated. Although appearing to be a normal chair in all respects, the following symbolism is attributed to it: The red paint symbolized the blood of Christ; the two arches in the cresting rail—the two tablets of the law given to Moses; the two large vertical stiles—the pillars of the church; the three vertical spindles—the apostle Paul, Jesus and Peter, the Rock; the front lower stretcher—the Judas the betrayer (upon which the patient should rest her right foot in disdain); the three rings on the legs—the Holy Trinity; and the low construction of the chair was to humble the patient to receive healing.

Antiquing

in Amish Country

by Ed Blanchette

Do you enjoy searching for antiques? Perhaps you are looking for that special something, or you just enjoy searching for a surprise to add to your home decor. Maybe you hope to find an item worthy of an "Antique Roadshow." Whatever you discover, once you find it, it becomes your personal treasure.



What makes Lancaster County such a great place to "go antiquing?" One obvious answer would be that this area has a rich history going back hundreds of years to the first settlers in the early 1700's. Many of us have stuff in our attics that we have forgotten about, or inherited. Who knows what may be out there either at a yard sale or an antique shop?

But just being an area rich in heritage doesn't make you an antique "Mecca." Here in Lancaster County, however, we boast thousands of antique shops and dealers. The Adamstown area alone has over 3,000 antiques dealers, and is known as Antiques Capital, U.S.A. The many locations stretch

out along Route 272, just off Pennsylvania Turnpike Exit 286.

Whether you are after a rarity, or just something old that intrigues you, you'll find everything from sheet music to music boxes, pocket watches to kitchen sinks, nostalgic clothes to beautiful wardrobes to hang them in. Glassware, crafts, toys, clothes, artwork, china, quilts and fabrics, memorabilia.... the list is virtually endless! 🐎

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An Amish Christmas



As might be expected, Amish Christmas customs are simple, oriented to the family and the religious meaning of the holiday. So, Amish children don't visit Santa Claus in the store. There is no lavishly decorated Christmas tree in the home. And strings of colorful electric lights do not grace the front of the Amish house.

But the making of special cookies and candies is certainly a part of the holiday activities. Greens and candles may decorate some home interiors. School children often pick names and exchange small gifts, such as writing paper or a needlepoint kit. Families usually exchange some small gifts as well. Some Amish also send Christmas cards, often to their "English" friends.

The Christmas church service may or may not be held on December 25th, but both Christmas and the following day, sometimes called "second Christmas," are holidays for the Amish. This second day is usually one of relaxation or visiting others. Christmas dinners are a special part of the celebration. These are usually large meals, not unlike those served at weddings, and various groups besides the family will hold get-togethers, such as single women, teachers, and others of like interest. These gatherings may continue into January and February of the New Year.

One Room School Christmas

One of the highlights of the Christmas season, for children and their parents, is the Christmas program held in many of



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the one-room schools. Carriages arrive and parents file anxiously into the room. Stories, plays, and songs are filled with humor and messages of the meaning of the season.

School programs begin with a welcome, sometimes by one of the younger “scholars,” often given a short verse to recite in English ...

“I’m glad it isn’t size and weight and age that count today, ‘cause then I might not have the chance to stand up here and say, MERRY CHRISTMAS!”

While stories are often about their non-Amish neighbors, mentioning Santa Claus and Christmas trees, clearly this is not what

the season represents. Some of the dialog from the plays suggests the morals behind the stories...

“Sometimes the gifts you make bring more happiness than anything you can buy.”

“Giving and making others happy is the best part of Christmas.”

“The best gift you can give is simply called love.”

In keeping with the focus of the holiday, some Christmas songs and carols are given new words, especially for the children. Here is a re-working of “O Little Town of Bethlehem...”

*O little Inn of Bethlehem
How like we are to you;
Our lives are crowded to the brim
With this and that to do.
We’re not unfriendly to the King,
We mean well without doubt;
We have no hostile feelings,
We merely crowd Him out.*

After the songs and short skits, the program concludes...

*Now that our program’s over,
I came to say good-bye,
And what I feel like doing,
Is heave a great big sigh.
Take our mistakes as kisses;
No harm was meant by them.
I hope you did enjoy the day
So you will come again.* 🐾



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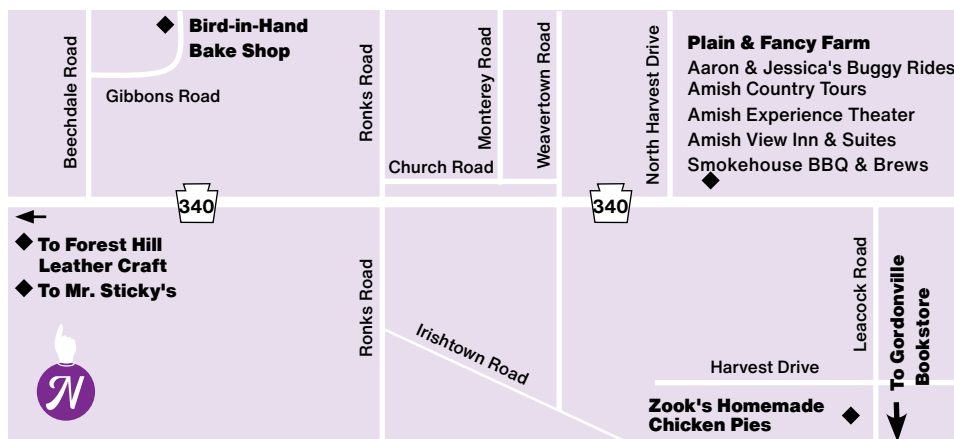
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Welcome to the Village of *Bird-in-Hand*



There's always Holiday treats available throughout Bird-in-Hand.

Of the many unique village names that dot the Amish Country map, one of the more interesting is Bird-in-Hand.

The story of the town of Bird-in-Hand is as colorful as the name itself. To be correct, the town is really a village, since it has no governing body. When Bird-in-Hand celebrated its 250th Anniversary (1734 – 1984), a commemorative booklet was put together. It outlined a brief history of the town...

The area's first inhabitants were, of course, the Native American Indians, in this case the Shawnees and the Conestogas. Indeed, local farmers have unearthed tomahawks and arrowheads.

William Penn, an English Quaker, had founded the colony of Penn's Woods (Pennsylvania), and settlers began arriving from Europe in the early 1700's, moving westward from the port city of Philadelphia. English Quakers and Swiss Mennonites were the early settlers, but over the years, the Germans "made the greatest lasting impact." James Smith was the first of the Quakers known to have settled in the area, arriving by the year 1715. The Quakers built a meetinghouse and two-story academy, which stands today, next to the fire company.

A friendly relationship existed between the Indians and the early settlers. The Indians

taught them how to deaden trees, use deerskin, prepare corn as food, and use medicinal herbs. But as the white settlement grew, there was less hunting available, and many Indians became peddlers or beggars.

"When the Old Philadelphia Pike became a well-established route of transportation for those traveling west to the Alleghenies, Lancaster became known as the gateway to the west." The trip by stagecoach for passengers, or Conestoga wagon with freight and merchandise, lasted several days. Inns were built every few miles, identified with signs held by an iron pole or attached to the side of the building.

The reason for these signs was twofold. First, they could be understood by all nationalities. Most travelers were either English or German-speaking people, but other languages were not uncommon. Secondly, many teamsters or

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wagoneers were poorly educated and could not read. If they were given orders to stop at a certain inn, they could do so by recognizing the artwork on the signboard. Some of the signs hanging along the Old Philadelphia Pike other than Bird-in-Hand were The Ship, The Wagon, The Plough, The Buck, White Horse, Black horse, The Hat and others.

The old legend of the naming of Bird-in-Hand concerns the time when the Old Philadelphia Pike was being laid out between Lancaster and Philadelphia. By 1734, road surveyors were making McNabb's hotel, built by pioneer landowners William and Dorothy McNabb, their headquarters rather than returning to Lancaster every day for lodging.

Legend says that two road surveyors were discussing whether they should stay at their present location or go to the town of Lancaster to spend the night. One of them said, "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush," and so they remained. The sign in front of the inn is known to have once "portrayed a man with a bird in his hand and a bush nearby, in which two birds were perched," and soon was known as the Bird-in-Hand Inn.

"The last hand-painted sign featuring the bird in hand was done by Benjamin Elmer Leaman and his artwork merely portrayed a bird in a hand." Variations of this sign appear throughout the town today. Some residents

might say that the bird nestled in the human hand indicates friendship, comfort, and hospitality.

The original hotel was destroyed by fire about 1851. By the following year, a three-story hotel was built to replace it by Benjamin Groff. It was auctioned off for \$8,457 in 1853, and over the years has had several owners. In the early 1900's, there were foxhunts from the hotel, as well as horse and cow sales.

More recently, it was Bitzer's Hotel before becoming the present Village Inn of Bird-in-Hand, a beautiful bed and breakfast property. The Historic Preservation Trust of Lancaster County said that the existing brick building "may be one of the few 19th century inns in the context of a small town in Lancaster County, which survives with a high degree of architectural integrity." It is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Of course, with all the wagon traffic on the pike, milestones were placed along the road to help travelers with distances. One of them still can be seen just west of the village toward Smoketown. Since Bird-in-Hand is 60 miles from Philadelphia and about 6 miles from Lancaster, the stone marker reads "60 to P, 6 to L." This was chiseled deep into the stone, supposedly so that those traveling at night could feel the lettering and know their location, even without a light.

Gibbons and Brubaker were important names in the town's history. Quaker activists, the Gibbonses operated the primary Underground Railroad "station" for slaves escaping from the South. It is said that Hannah and Daniel Gibbons helped about 1,000 slaves. "A single tap on the window at night indicated to everyone in the family that a fugitive was there. The escapees were taken to the barn and in the morning brought to the house separately," where each was given a new identity.

The year 1834 marked the beginning of construction of the 86-mile Pennsylvania Railroad line between Philadelphia and Columbia. Bird-in-Hand, with its tanneries, feed mills, coal and lumberyards, was the most important stop on the Lancaster to Coatesville section. "Different contractors each built two miles of track. The first track had no wooden ties, but rather huge stone blocks were laid about 20 feet apart and a wooden beam was laid between them. A piece of light iron track was then spiked to the beam. One could take a stagecoach, change the wheels, and put it on the tracks and pick up passengers." Horses were used to pull the cars. In 1836 a second track was laid and locomotives began pulling the cars. Horses were banned ten years later.

The Railroad Hotel, built in 1835 at Beechdale Road, was one of the largest buildings in town, with 32 rooms to accommodate the workers constructing the

Pennsylvania Railroad. (It was torn down in 1934.) It was the scene, in 1917, of a memorable incident. A man visited the tavern with his pet dancing bear. Both were served quite a bit of alcohol by the patrons. Eventually the bear got drunk and had to be locked in the basement!

Well into the 1900's, everything from flowers to live ducks were shipped from the village to large cities by the railroad. As late as the 1950's, mail was "hung from a long arm and caught by a moving train."

Resident Reuben Myers told this story... "Trains often developed hot axles or wheels when they became defective or ran out of grease. When we saw a smoking axle, we stood along the tracks and held our noses. This was a signal to the engineer or brakeman to warn them of the problem."

Even with a bridge over the tracks, there were fatalities and an underpass was dug so that the main street would go under the train tracks. It opened in 1928. To this day, road traffic goes under the train tracks on Route 340. While there is no passenger service today, "as late as 1975 the train would stop to let off the New York rabbi who killed the chickens at the Empire Kosher Poultry Company in Bird-in-Hand."

Some of the other interesting businesses around the village over the years have included a Christmas tree plantation, archery targets,

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were packed in ice and sent to large cities. By 1949, 120,000 ducks were produced, and in the final years 100,000 turkeys added. The farm in the 1930's was something of a tourist attraction, as "people drove to the farm from all over to see the great white ocean of quaking birds."

Continued on Page 18

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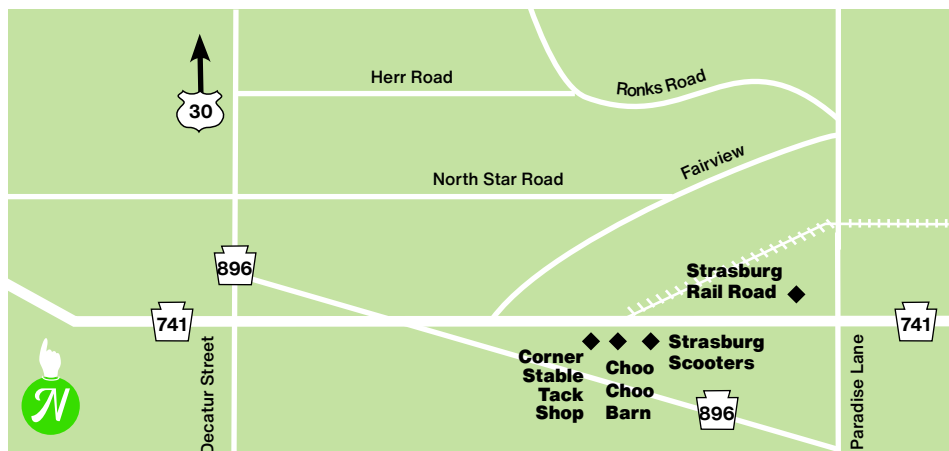
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A Town of Trains & Heritage

Strasburg



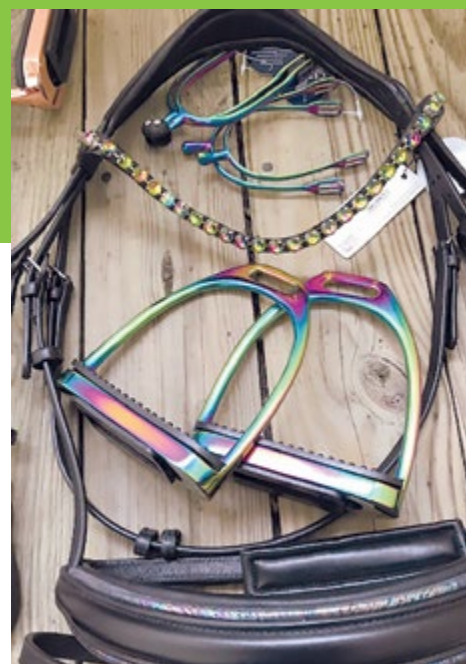
All aboard! Strasburg is a destination all its own in Dutch Country, home to many well known attractions. To name just a few — the Strasburg Rail Road, Ghost Tours of Lancaster, National Toy Train Museum, and the Choo Choo Barn. But you may not know much about the interesting history of "Train Town."

Strasburg, named for the city in France, was actually "founded" by a Frenchman, Pierre Bezaillon, who traded with the Delaware Indians. The story goes he came to the area in 1693, as French fur traders opened up the first

path through this area from Philadelphia to the Susquehanna River.

As early as 1716, when the first wagon was used for hauling goods, the path became known as the Conestoga Road, and the wagons that traveled them eventually became known as Conestoga Wagons. Main Street Strasburg was developed during the next half century as traffic on this road increased considerably and the first log houses appeared in the village about 1733.

Strasburg continued to flourish in the 18th century primarily because of its location along



Amish Country News welcomes their new advertiser Corner Stable Tack Shop located in Strasburg PA. Visit their website at www.cornerstabletackshop.com

the major wagon routes between Philadelphia, Lancaster, and the Susquehanna River.

As Strasburg flourished, so did its neighbor to the east, Philadelphia. The commercial interests of Philadelphia pressured the State Legislature to improve the transportation network into their city. As a result, a series of canals along with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Roads were constructed. Strasburg residents became alarmed at the possibility of losing their commercial position and there soon emerged a charter for the Strasburg Rail Road to construct a rail line connecting Strasburg with the Philadelphia and Columbia Rail Road main line near Paradise. Finally in the 1850's, trains were hauling freight and passengers.

About 100 years later, business had dwindled, and a severe storm in 1957 destroyed much of the track. It seemed the SRR had reached the end of the line. To the rescue came a group of local train enthusiasts who began bringing the SRR back to life in a totally new way. They added passenger cars and buildings, and today's Strasburg Rail Road was born, destined to become one of Dutch Country's top attractions.

Appropriately enough, the State decided to build an expanded Rail Road Museum of Pennsylvania across the street, the ideal place to preserve the history of railroading in Pennsylvania. With the other train attractions nearby, it's little wonder that Strasburg has earned the title of Train Town! 🚂



Celebrate the Magic of Christmas

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Nov 21–Dec 24

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- The Night Before Christmas Train
- Santa's Christmas Trolley
- Christmas Tree Train




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 Route 741 East, Strasburg, PA



Celebrate the Magic of Christmas

Aboard the Strasburg Rail Road

There's nothing quite like the excitement of seeing Santa – whether it's the first time or the 50th. Maybe it's the suit, the twinkle in his eye, or the way he always seems to make our wishes come true. This year, celebrate the magic of Christmas like never before – at Strasburg Rail Road!

Kick-off the 2020 holiday season by creating memories aboard Strasburg Rail Road's Christmas Trains – Santa's Paradise Express, The Night Before Christmas Train, Santa's Christmas Trolley, and The Christmas Tree Train – running November 21 through December 24.

Each weekend beginning November 21, families can travel down the tracks and enjoy a visit by Santa on the Santa's Paradise Express. With a special gift for good boys and girls, Santa will greet each passenger in their seats and families will have the opportunity to have their photo taken with him. Mrs. Claus will also be available at the North Pole Annex from 12-4 pm to help finalize letters to Santa. Plus, Guests

can enjoy storybook readings of holiday classics aboard a heated stationary Caboose.

On select Friday and Saturday evenings beginning December 4, the magic of Christmas Eve is recreated aboard The Night Before Christmas Train. Passengers can wear their pajamas and enjoy cookies and milk as they travel down the tracks. As the train travels, a reader dressed in a Victorian nightshirt and cap will read aloud the classic poem, The Night Before Christmas. At the station, visitors can also enjoy other storybook readings of holiday classics at the North Pole Annex.

Santa's Christmas Trolley takes to the tracks beginning December 4. This exclusive ride aboard the historic LO&S Motorcar affords children and their grown-ups the opportunity to visit with Old St. Nick in a magical "sleigh" of a very different sort. During the 45-minute trip to Paradise and back, children 11 years and younger will be able to have their professional photo taken with Santa as they talk with him about what they are looking forward to this Christmas.

Once back at the station, families will be able to pick up their keepsake 5x7 photos of their children with Santa. All this is included in your ticket price.

For that special Currier and Ives Christmas experience, take a ride aboard the Christmas Tree Train, running November 27-28 and December 4-5. Travel by authentic steam train to Leaman Place Grove where you can choose a pre-cut Fraser Fir tree and have it delivered back to the station. Once at Leaman Place Grove, passengers will have approximately one hour to choose and purchase that special Christmas tree. It's then baled and loaded on a heritage freight car, while you enjoy complimentary hot cocoa, a roaring campfire, and the sound of Christmas carolers.

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REMINDERS

for Visitors to Amish Country

Although thousands of visitors come to Lancaster County to experience a bit of the Amish lifestyle, the Amish are a private people and find the attention somewhat disconcerting. It is important to respect their feelings while you're visiting. With that in mind, here are a few tips for fostering good relations between the Amish and non-Amish.

No Pictures, Please! Don't ask an Amish person to pose for a picture. Most will politely refuse. It is against the convictions of our Amish neighbors to have their pictures taken, except in very special situations. Please respect this belief and do not take photos without permission, just as you would like to have your beliefs respected.

Hold Your Horses Driving along area roads, you will no doubt encounter numerous Amish carriages, or "buggies," as visitors like to call them. Do not honk your horn, because the sound may frighten the horse and cause an accident. Instead, wait until it is safe to pass and then give the buggy plenty of room. Be sure not to cut back in the lane too sharply in front of the horse. The county's roads are generally wide enough that you should be able to pass most buggies without much of a problem.

No Trespassing Do not trespass onto private Amish property for a "closer look." Amish homes are not museums, and Amish people are not exhibits. Please respect their property and privacy as you would like others to respect your own. You can get a good sense of Amish life at many area visitor attractions and on guided tours.

Waving Do not be offended if the Amish do not wave back to your friendly gesture. With all the people who wave to them throughout a day, they would be waving back all day if they did!

A Final Word Remember that the Amish are not on vacation and are not costumed actors. They are real people going about their daily lives. They are not here to serve as tour guides or attractions for visitors. This, after all, is their home, so please respect their beliefs and lifestyle. 

They Go By The Name of *New Holland & Blue Ball*



an official name was necessary, there was no dissension to naming the town New Holland.

The Dutch assistance is thought to have included funds to cover the cost of the refugee German immigrants' ocean voyage. It was no small matter when the alternative was indentured service for a period of years. For adults, indenture frequently meant four to seven years without pay. Minors served until

Continued on Page 19

The northeastern part of Lancaster County offers many intriguing small towns and attractions. Coming from Ephrata on Route 322, you will arrive in Blue Ball and the intersection with Route 23. The town got its name from the Blue Ball Hotel, built more than two hundred years ago. In the early 18th century, John Wallace built a small building in Earl Town at the intersection of two Native trails, French Creek Path (now Route 23) and Paxtang (Route 322). He hung a blue ball out front from a post and called it "The Sign of the Blue Ball." Locals soon began calling the town "Blue Ball" after the inn, and in 1833, Earl Town officially became Blue Ball. Continuing west, you will arrive in the town of New Holland.

New Holland's European Background

The unstable situation in Europe in the late 1600's spawned and nurtured the pioneer interest in the deep forest lands of Pennsylvania—60 miles inland from Philadelphia. In 1681 William Penn received his 40,000 square-mile land grant to settle King Charles' debt to his father. Being a Quaker, William Penn had experienced religious persecution firsthand, and decided to establish his American colony on the idealistic basis of complete religious freedom.

This entire century had been one of continued misery for the peasants of the Palatinate (western Germany). The Thirty Years War has raged across the area with barbaric ruthlessness. Some towns were burned out two or three separate times during the period. The peasant inhabitants fled to nearby Holland for refuge. And within a decade of the end of that

conflict, King Louis XIV of France started a new religious war in the same general area.

These Palatinate peasants were exhausted by war's desolation, and were ripe for a new start. Traveling land agents for William Penn's new colony found willing ears. In addition to complete religious freedom and a peaceful existence, Penn offered cheap land. The stated price was 100 English pounds for 5,000 acres. (At today's rate exchange, this would be less than \$.06 an acre, plus a small annual "quit rent.") By the year 1702, a goodly number of Palatinates had immigrated to Pennsylvania, and Queen Anne, newly reigning in England, was delighted that Penn was colonizing his immense grant without drawing off the population of Britain.

The area now called New Holland was practically covered by virgin forests—sturdy timber of oak, ash, chestnut, and walnut. By 1728, William Penn, had been dead for 10 years and his American colony, called Pennsylvania and was being administered by a proprietary governor while the sale of land was formalized by patent deeds.

Naming the Town

In 1729 the Proprietary Legislature started to establish inland counties, and the following year Lancaster County was divided into 17 townships. Because the first settler in this general area was at Groffdale, the township was named after him, with the English equivalent of his German name which is Earl. Consequently the settlement was referred to as "Earl town." Michael Diffenderfer named his real estate development New Design in 1750. In 1802 when a post office was established and

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By Clinton Martin

All Amish families have to make their own money, pay their own bills, and thus there are Amish who are doing quite well financially, and those who don't have two nickels to rub together, and families somewhere in between. The Amish community is not a communistic society. It is a very close-knit, family-focused, community oriented, capitalist group. So, where do the Amish put their money?

Most Amish do their banking in the "English" world, meaning the same mainstream banks that the non-Amish use around Lancaster County also cater to the Amish clientele. However, over the years it must have become apparent that many modern banking customs didn't quite understand the Amish completely.

The need for an "Amish bank" must have become clearer and clearer, to the point that indeed a brand new bank was officially opened in 2013, the Bank of Bird

Where do the Amish Put Their Money?

in Hand. The bank was started by a group of investors, comprised of Amish and English residents alike, to approach banking from a very Lancaster County, conservative, Amish, point of view. Interestingly enough, the Bank of Bird In Hand was the first new bank established since the passing of the 2010 Dodd Frank Act.

The Bank of Bird in Hand caters to Amish borrowers, but is not exclusively for the Amish. Anyone can bank with them, but they specialize in understanding the unique needs of the Amish community. Accessibility alone is one area that they do things a little differently. The Bank of Bird In Hand has mobile branches that travel to the farther reaches of Lancaster County, setting up at nine locations on scheduled days, for clients to do banking where they live. Locations were chosen with consideration for convenience for their Amish customers. On Tuesdays, for instance, there is a well-attended hay sale in Kirkwood, PA. The mobile branch parks in the milking equipment supplier's parking lot across the street during the hours of the hay

sale. When you don't have a car or a computer, doing your banking looks a little different than the average customer in 2020. The Bank of Bird In Hand has specially designed trucks that contain everything that a brick and mortar branch would have, but in what amounts to a banker's RV. The truck visits Amish populations in rural areas of Lancaster County on set days, able to handle any transaction that an Amish customer might need.

While the Bank of Bird In Hand is the closest thing to an "Amish Bank" that you'd ever come across, it is a fully functioning, modern bank, but with an outlook designed to be welcoming and understanding to Amish business and farming concerns. 



Bird-in-Hand

Continued from Page 13

The town post office was established in 1836 as the Enterprise Post Office. "Enterprise" was then the official name of the town, until the final change back to Bird-in-Hand in 1873.

After a large fire in 1896, people discussed the need for a fire company. In the early days, hitting a circular saw alerted the men of a fire. The year 1916 saw the change from horse-drawn to motorized fire equipment. Today the Hand-in-Hand Fire Company remains a volunteer organization, famous for its delicious fund-raiser dinners.

The town of Bird-in-Hand remained relatively unknown until a musical called PLAIN & FANCY opened in New York. "Plain Betsy," a play by Marion Bucher Weaver of Columbia, inspired the Broadway musical. The cast was brought to

Bird-in-Hand on January 17, 1955, prior to the official opening. The show Playbill noted that "The action takes place in and around Bird-in-Hand, a town in the Amish country of Pennsylvania." The musical opened with a large map of Lancaster County, pinpointing its unusual town names, like Bird-in-Hand and Intercourse. As the show begins, we meet two sophisticated New Yorkers who have come to Lancaster to sell a farm they have inherited. They are now lost, and in the big opening number ask the locals for directions --- "Where the heck is Bird-in-Hand?" Today, the town of Bird-in-Hand is still small, said to have a population of only about 300 people. On any given day, there may be more visitors than inhabitants. Many are city folks who have come to enjoy the country atmosphere, history, and shopping. It is said that visitors "can still expect friendly shopkeepers, homegrown Lancaster County foods, and restful lodging for weary travelers." 

New Holland & Blue Ball

Continued from Page 19

roads in early Lancaster County. (Today it's mostly Route 23.) It was surveyed in 1737 to connect Lancaster with the Coventry Iron works in Chester County. But in 1795, when Earl Township supervisors had it resurveyed, they found the correct location where it passed through New Holland was somewhat to the south of the existing Main Street. Furthermore, the roadway was only 33 feet wide instead of the 50 feet supposedly specified. The citizens appealed to the County Court for relief, which was granted, so the Horse Shoe Road through New Holland was accepted as it existed in fact, and the maps were changed accordingly. Most of Main Street remains only 33' wide today.

New Holland is a charming small town similar to many small towns in rural America. The strength of New Holland lies in its people, who "want to be free to work hard, strive for excellence, and have a pride in their rich heritage." 

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New Holland & Blue Ball

Continued from Page 17

their 21st birthday. But William Penn's Quaker Pennsylvania was a liberation compared to the Europe they fled. Except for the Netherlands, there was no other country that offered complete freedom of religion, assembly and speech to all.

The village founders were German, not Dutch. They were surrounded by English and Welsh Quakers, Episcopalians, a few

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Swiss-German Mennonites and some Scotch-Irish Presbyterians. The Amish arrived later.

Tribulations of the Settlers

Although these pioneer settlers found all they had hoped for in peaceful existence and freedom of worship, it should not be thought this was necessarily a land of "milk and honey." There were many hardships during these early years. Swarms of locusts ravaged the area in 1732. Severe earthquakes were active throughout eastern Pennsylvania in 1737. Two successive seasons of poor crops (1750-51) followed by three years of drought (1752-54). A hailstorm in 1763 dropped hailstones as large as turkey eggs killing many small animals. During the very hard winter of 1780 twenty inches of ice formed on the ponds, and the ears of sheep and cattle had frozen.

Public Roads—Legends vs. Facts

New Holland was laid out as a "street town" in the typical European style of having the villagers live in a central location along both sides of the street, but each having an outlying plot of land to cultivate in addition to his trade as a craftsman. Even today, the main street of New Holland has major "kinks" or bends in it. Unsympathetic visitors claim it looks as if the town were built along a "cow path." If one looks with a discerning eye, the street also follows the high ground. The land on the ridge was the

driest and in winter it would be blown clear of much of the snow. These settlers made the obvious facts of nature work for them rather than against them.

Surveying as practiced in the 1700's was not a precise craft. The records show that the Horse Shoe Road was one of only three public

Continued on Page 18

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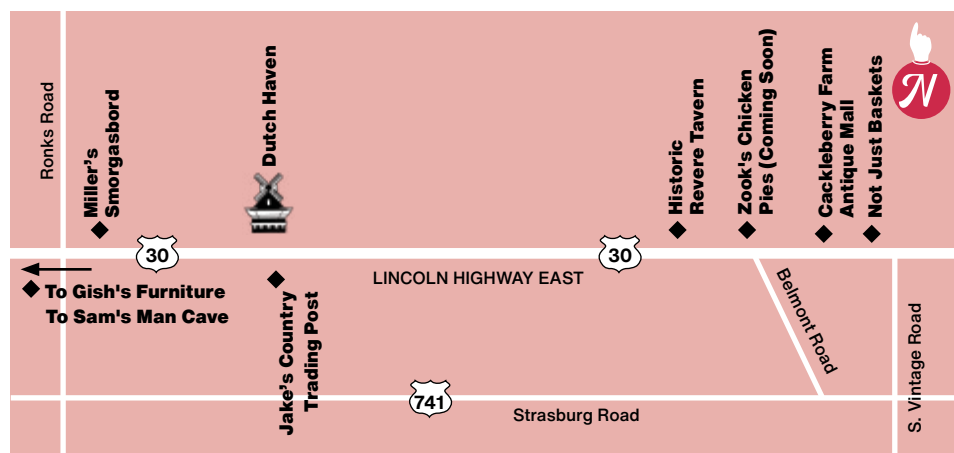
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A Town Called Paradise



For over 250 years, visitors coming into Lancaster County from the east have traveled through a small town known as Paradise. Officially, Paradise Township adopted the name during its organization in 1843. Different sources credit different people with naming the area. Some say that the name Paradise was given by Joshua Scott, who later became known for his map of Lancaster County. Standing in the middle of a road admiring his surroundings one day in 1804, he remarked that the town should be called Paradise, because its beauty made it “seem like a paradise.”

The story of Paradise and its first settlers goes all the way back to Europe, to the area of the Palatinate in Germany. Here many Protestants settled following the declaration of King Louis XIV that all Protestants in France would be persecuted. With fears of invasion by the army of France looming, many of these

people decided to accept the invitation to settle in William Penn's colony of Penn's Woods in the New World. In 1708, Daniel Fierre (Ferree), along with his family and mother Mary, went to England to obtain citizenship papers before proceeding to New York.

By 1712, these French Huguenot settlers had secured land in Pennsylvania, in Lancaster's Pequea Valley. They were the first white people in the area and lived peaceably with chief Tanawa and the local Indians. Mary Fierre died four years later at the age of 63. Hers became the first grave in the family's cemetery. If you ride the Strasburg Rail Road, the “Road to Paradise,” you will pass her grave site at Carpenter's Cemetery, one of Lancaster's oldest. (Not surprisingly, some people also credit Mary Ferree with naming Paradise.)

Later on, Joel Ferree, who some say was involved in the development of the Pennsylvania Rifle, gained some fame for

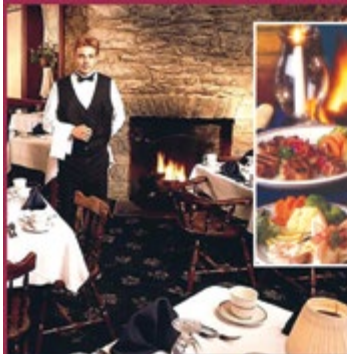
his gun shop during the Revolutionary War. Responding to a letter from a committee that included Benjamin Franklin, he decided to enlarge his shop “to promote my Business and to serve my Country in the Common Cause,” hoping to double his weekly production of 15 to 20 gun barrels.

It should be noted that David Witmer, Sr. “is credited with the naming of the town of Paradise. Members of his own family criticized him for selecting the name ‘Paradise’ when he could have used ‘Pequea’ or ‘Tanawa,’ in honor of the Native American chief.” David was apparently a friend of George Washington, and also a supervisor of a section of the Lancaster-Philadelphia Turnpike.

It was this road that was so important to the development of the village itself. The origins of Route 30, also known as the “Lincoln Highway,” go back to Lancaster's colonial days when this frontier county needed a communication route between it and the provincial capital of Philadelphia. At that time, the first “planned” road between Philadelphia and Lancaster was what is now Route 340. It was called the “King's Highway,” and today we still call it the “Old Philadelphia Pike.”

Construction of the King's Highway began in 1733 and followed, in part, the old Allegheny Native American path. By modern standards, the name “highway” is really a misnomer because the road was only dirt, which became virtually impassable during rain and snow. As time went on, it became evident that the road could not accommodate the increasing traffic between Lancaster and Philadelphia.

A committee was created in 1786 to investigate the possibility of improving inland transportation within the state of Pennsylvania. The conclusion of the committee's work appeared on September 30, 1790, and resulted in the appointment of a commission to survey a route between Lancaster and Philadelphia. Since the cost of such a road was too much for the state to undertake, the company charged with building it was given the power to demand “reasonable” tolls from users. Investors received dividends earned from the tolls collected along the nine gates of the turnpike. (As the toll was paid, the gate or “pike” was turned, hence the term “turnpike.”) To prevent



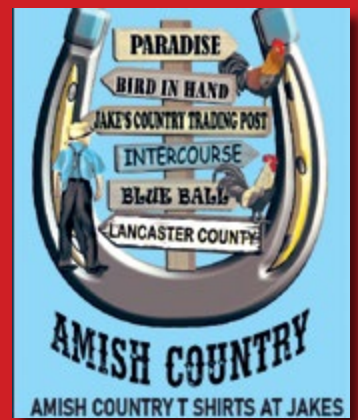

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Continued on Page 22



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Paradise Continued from Page 20

travelers from evading tolls, the number of gates was later increased to thirteen.

The 1792 Act described the construction of the highway, which was to be a bed of small crushed stones on top with larger stones

underneath, rather than dirt, so as to prevent carriage wheels from cutting into the soil. Such a revolutionary system of road construction combined the ideas recently developed by a Frenchman and two Englishmen, one of whom was named John McAdam. We now

take the term for paved roads or "macadam" from his last name. The turnpike officially opened in 1795 and was the first long-distance, hard-surfaced road in the country.

Originating in the Conestoga Valley of Lancaster County, the Conestoga wagon made an important contribution to the commerce and progress of our young nation. With patriotic red running gear, white canopy, and blue body, the wagon traveled the turnpike and rural roads from the late 1700's to the mid-1800's. The Conestoga wagon drivers often smoked thin, long cigars made from Lancaster County tobacco. These cigars were nicknamed "stogies," a shortened version of Conestoga. Another bit of lore associated with the wagons is why Americans drive their cars on the right side of the road. The lead horse was kept to the left of the Conestoga wagon, and the teamsters walked or rode on the left side. Therefore, the drivers always passed other wagons headed the same direction on the left side.

Of course, taverns and stagecoach shops grew up along the turnpike for the weary travelers (and horses) making the trip. Of these, the Revere Tavern still proudly stands today. Dating back to 1740, the stone building that was the "stage tavern" was called the "Sign of the Spread Eagle." It was one of the better inns along the 62 miles of turnpike, and catered to the more prosperous class of travelers, providing fine liquors and fine foods in generous portions to satisfy the hearty appetites generated by a long day riding a rocking, jolting stagecoach.

Almost a century later, in 1841, the tavern would become the residence of Reverend Edward V. Buchanan and his wife Eliza Foster Buchanan, while the Reverend established and served as the pastor of All Saints Episcopal Church in Paradise.

Eliza, his wife, was the sister of Stephen Foster, whose immortal songs will always be a part of America. Foster not only penned some of his music at the tavern, but sent many of his manuscripts to his sister, a talented musician in her own right, for her approval. There, on the banks of the Pequea Creek, Eliza and Stephen played many of the 200 songs written by Stephen, including "My Olde Kentucky Home," "Way Down Upon the Swanee River" and "Oh, Susanna."

Nowadays, the Historic Revere Tavern remains an excellent place to dine, and continues to offer lodging accommodations, just as it did hundreds of years ago. The tavern can be reached at 717.687.8602. And the backroads around Paradise remain beautiful to this day, as the lush greens of the summer give way to the fall colors of the harvest season. So, during your visit to Lancaster, be sure to spend a little time in Paradise. 

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Message from the Owners of Cackleberry Farm Antique Mall

The covid-19 pandemic has created a truly unprecedented situation which affects us all. Our hearts go out to anyone who's been impacted by the virus, either directly or indirectly. As we approach the final weeks of 2020 and prepare for the upcoming Holiday Season, we want to thank the thousands of customers that visit our antique mall from across the country. **We wish everyone a Happy, Healthy & Safe Holiday Season and Happy & Healthy New Year!**

Cackleberry Farm Antique Mall is located at 3371 Lincoln Highway East, Paradise, Pennsylvania, on Route 30. Four miles west of Route 41 and only six miles east of Rockvale Square Outlet Mall. Only minutes away from everywhere and everything Lancaster County has to offer. It's Not Just an Antique Mall – It's Your Destination!!

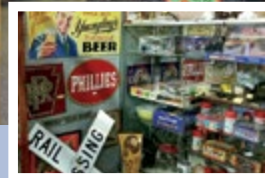
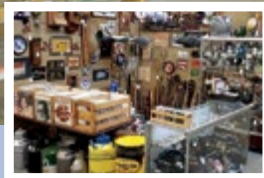
Customer Safety is paramount at Cackleberry Farm Antique Mall! They follow all CDC and Pennsylvania Department of Health Guidelines, including hourly cleaning of high touch surfaces, 6 foot social distancing and properly fitting face masks or face coverings are required by all that enter the store. With Over Five Million Dollars of Inventory, their huge 26,000 square foot facility houses a wide variety of antiques and collectibles, displayed by over 125 dealers featuring fine items such as: furniture, glassware, Railroad, Mining and Fire Fighting Memorabilia, coins, sterling silver, advertising, jewelry, fine china, toys, trains, Christmas, pottery, linens, primitives, kitchenware & more! It's impossible to tell you everything they have to offer. You will be amazed at the quality selection.

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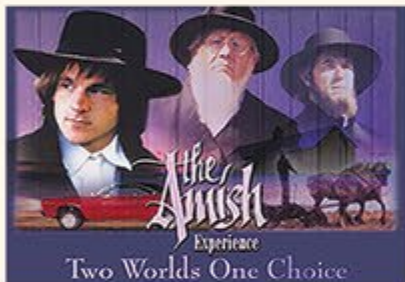


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Smokehouse BBQ and Brews

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There's No Place Quite Like

Lititz



There really is no place quite like Lititz, and everyone should plan to spend some time there while in Amish Country. Lititz Springs Park is a popular spot for locals, and the site for many community activities. Indeed, the town's 4th of July Celebration, begun in 1818, is reputedly the "oldest continuing community-wide observance in the United States." Historians say the springs are what brought Indians to the area. Spearheads have been found nearby, dating back to perhaps 6,000 B.C. A recent local journal states that "Main Street was traveled by human beings for at least 10,000 years."

When you come to Lititz, you'll want to travel Main Street, too. A good place to begin is The Lititz Museum and Historical Foundation, which can be reached at 717.627.4636. The museum is one of the most tastefully and professionally arranged town museums you are likely to see anywhere. The exhibit rooms will give you background on the town's history, from its founding in 1756. Visitors are usually amazed at the two parquet clocks, made by resident Rudolf S. Carpenter in the early 1900's. The larger of the two consists of over 50,000 pieces of wood!



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Linden Hall School for Girls in Lititz, celebrating 270 Years of Excellence.

Admission to the museum includes a tour of the nearby Johannes Mueller House, for a look at life in old Lititz. The house is practically unchanged from its completion in 1792. For visitors interested in the town's historic structures, the Foundation also has an excellent walking tour brochure.

The Lititz story is tied to that of the Moravian faith in Bohemia. It was in the present-day Czech Republic that John Hus and followers founded the Moravian Church in 1457. Historians note that since this was 60 years before Luther's Reformation, the Moravians may lay claim to being the oldest organized Protestant Church. But over the course of the Thirty Years War, its 200,000 members nearly disappeared. In the 18th century, a renewal of the Moravian Church came through the patronage of Count Zinzendorf of Saxony. He invited all those persecuted for their faith to come to his lands in Saxony.

As was the case with other persecuted religious groups in Europe, many Moravians sought freedom by taking the perilous journey to the New World, arriving in the early 1700's, with the main settlements becoming established in Pennsylvania and North Carolina.

Missionary work was integral to the faith, and preachers were sent from the Moravian community in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania. Zinzendorf himself arrived in America in 1742. A local resident, John Klein (Kline), was so moved by hearing Zinzendorf's preaching that he made arrangements to transfer his lands over to the Moravian community in 1755. It was in the following year that the town actually got the name of Lititz, the German spelling for Lidice, where European

Continued on Page 29

Moravian reformers had taken refuge in 15th century.

In addition to mission work, music and education were important to the Moravians. In fact, the Lititz schoolhouse erected in 1746 marked the beginnings of what was to be Linden Hall, the oldest continuously operating residence school for girls in the United States.

For about a hundred years, Moravian church members were the only people permitted to live in the town. A Brothers' House and Sisters' House were erected for the unmarried men and women, although they did not live communally. It was not until 1855 that non-Moravians were allowed to own their own houses. The Brothers' House played a role in the American Revolution. George Washington ordered it used as a military hospital between 1777-78. Some 1,000 soldiers were nursed here, about half of whom died and were buried nearby.

Two names are linked forever with the history of Lititz—Sturgis and Sutter. It was Julius Sturgis who opened the first commercial pretzel bakery in the New World in Lititz. The year was 1861, and the site at 219 East Main Street is on the National Register of Historic Places.

A tour of the bakery is unlike any other. Inside, you get to try your hand at pretzel twisting. It's not as easy as it looks. Guests also may see the old brick bake ovens, as well as the more modern facilities. The bakery can be reached at 717-626-4354.

John Sutter was born in Switzerland and in 1834, fleeing creditors in Europe, arrived in New York. In time, he headed west and sailed up the Sacramento River to begin a settlement. By 1848, work was being done on a mill when some gold flakes were spotted in the water. Soon Gold Rush fever struck and Sutter's land was overrun. Because of his need to be near Washington, D.C. while seeking reimbursement for his lost lands, the Sutters stayed one summer at the Springs Hotel in Lititz. They decided to settle there, and promptly bought a home and placed their children in school. The hotel once named the General Sutter Inn, is now known as the Bull's Head Inn. The Sutter home built in 1871 is across the street at 19 East Main Street.

It was in a Washington hotel room where Sutter died in 1880, still involved in unsuccessful attempts at redress from the government for his seized lands. Sutter, a Lutheran, was buried in the Moravian cemetery, normally reserved for Moravian church members. 

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Amish Entrepreneurial Spirit Reflects Wholesome Side of a Hard Day's Work

By Clinton Martin & Edward Blanchette

Rampant crony capitalism and materialistic cash-mongering. If you want it, get up at 2 a.m. on Black Friday and head to the mall. Amish Country will be just fine without all of that, as it has been for generations. In fact, all the qualities that differentiate Amish Country from the hectic buyer's battle that the holiday shopping season can be are precisely why so many visitors decide to escape for a day or three in Amish Country's simpler, more wholesome environs.

Amish carriages sway with the gait of chestnut brown horses as they saunter down less-traveled back roads, the sound of clip-clopping hooves rhythmically echoing off the barns, silos, and homes of neighboring farms and small cottage industries. The crisp, cool air that has long since covered the now-fallow fields with frost only serves to make the smells wafting from the area's small-town family-owned bakeries that much more inviting. There's still "produce" in Amish Country these days. Pecks of peaches might not be in season anymore, but the pies in which they've been preserved and baked are hot, fresh, and irresistible out of the oven.

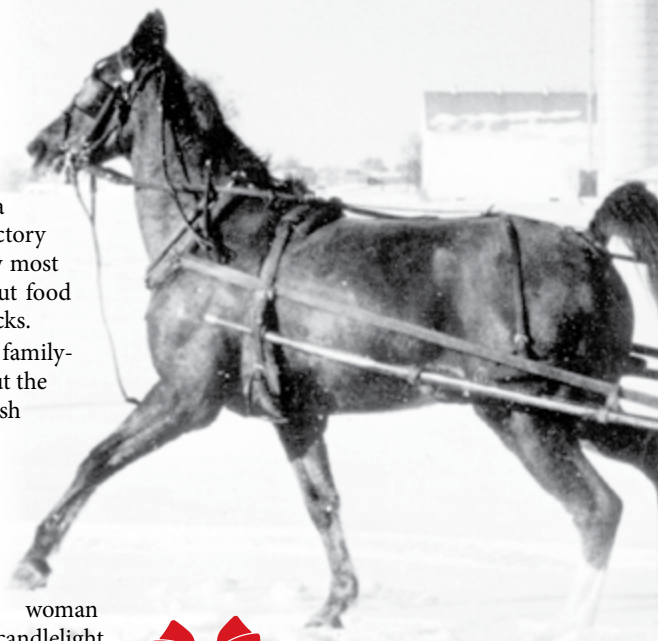
Truth be told, there's always been more to Amish Country than farms, and there are many Amish families that make a living doing something other than tilling the soil. This is nothing new, as jobs off the farm had already

begun to be common among the Amish forty years ago. However, a typical "lunch pail" job at a local factory or non-Amish employer is not how most of the non-farming Plain people put food on the table and clothes on their backs.

There are thousands of small, family-owned cottage industries throughout the Amish community that provide Amish families with vocation yet retain a family togetherness that is only possible by going to work, by staying at home. Blacksmiths shoeing horses, carriage makers crafting the traditional black and grey buggies, and an Amish woman working needle and thread by candlelight one stitch at a time as she creates a beautiful hand-made quilt are all easily worked into the stereotypical view of Amish Country. But these home-based cottage industries are not nearly as limited.

Amish craftsmen make just about anything you can think of, if it can be fashioned by hand, with minimal tools, and a little Amish ingenuity when it comes to electricity. Power drills can be run off compressed air, diesel generators can easily power saws and other equipment. Solar panels power the rest, without needing to plug in to "the grid."

At Amish Country News we've had the privilege of writing about a wide variety of Amish cottage industries. Listed on the next few pages are some examples. 



Zook's Homemade Chicken Pies 717-768-0239

Amish family-owned bakery now in the second generation of ownership, making simply scrumptious and savory chicken, beef, and sausage pies in various sizes, available frozen from their bakery. Currently located 3194 Harvest Drive, Ronks, PA., Zooks Homemade Chicken Pies will be moving to a brand-new location, the expected date of opening for the new location is December 7, 2020. Located at 3427 Lincoln Highway East, Paradise, PA.

Calling All Photographers!

2020 Amish Country News Photo Contest

Amish Country is one of the most photographed areas in the world. With so much beauty and variety around us, it's no wonder! Think you've got a great photo? Send it to us and you could win free tour and attraction tickets. In addition, see your photo in the pages of Amish Country News. Prizes will also go to the first, second, and third runners-up. Photos should depict scenes, aspects, events, or activities typical to Lancaster or PA Dutch Country region and will be judged on photo quality, color, subject matter, and resolution. (REMEMBER ALL PHOTOS NEED TO BE 300 DPI AND 8X10.)



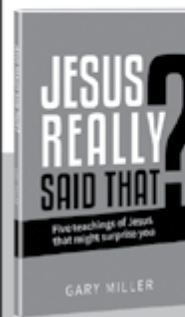
We accept photos via email, and request no more than 5 photos by the same person be submitted. Each filename should contain your name (josmith_amishphoto.jpg.) Include your name, title of all photos, address, and phone number plus details on location, date, or subject of the photograph. Photos become property of Amish Country News and Amish Experience and could be used in upcoming issues, publications, and/or other promotions. Deadline for Photo Contest 12/31/2020.

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When Quilts and Crafts Don't Satisfy, Amish Country Still Delivers



By Clinton Martin & Edward Blanchette

No offense to "Amish Country Ohio," but I've been there, and while there is plenty of "Amishy" stuff to do there, when you've had your fill of buggies bonnets, there's just not a whole lot of other options. Here in Lancaster PA, we boast an all-encompassing authentic encounter with the Amish community, while also providing myriad of world-class vacation experiences. Whether it is live theater, exhilarating roller coasters, fine art galleries or our awesome craft beer scene, Amish Country around here doesn't stop at quilts and crafts.

Thankfully neither does the shopping. There are merchants here providing retail pursuits that simply can't be found anywhere else. The fact that northern Lancaster County's town of Adamstown is known far and wide as Antiques Capitol USA only proves evidence to the claim that you can truly shop for days in Amish Country prior to setting foot on an Amish farm. **Renninger's Antique Market** is one of the anchor properties in Adamstown, and also provides an excellent Sunday activity when much of Amish Country might be closed. Renninger's is easy to spot along Route 272.

If you won't have time to head up to Renninger's, you can still experience Antique & Collectible shopping worth writing home about, with **Cackleberry Farms Antique Mall** offering an option along Lancaster's Route 30 corridor, while **Brickerville Antiques** welcomes visitors in the Lititz area.

If the phrase "What's old is new again" doesn't really get you excited, there is a shopping experience in Lancaster that might fit your fancy, where all the merchandise is brand new, fresh, trendy, stylish and luxurious

yet surprisingly affordable. That would be the **Tanger Outlet Center**. Located on Route 30 in the heart of Lancaster County, Tanger Outlets offers numerous name brands all in one place. It is outlet shopping at its best.

Located right across the street from Tanger Outlets, perfectly situated to provide the companion of the outlet shopper with something a little more interesting, is **Sam's Man Cave**. This store offers signs, platters, plates, steins & glasses, sports memorabilia, pins, and yes even neon signs. Items that cover many different genres and interests. But this experience is best visited in person. Seeing all the items Sam's Man Cave has to offer, is not just a five-minute rush in, rush out experience. You will want to take the extra time to explore and engage this unique world and let it all sink in. Not to mention the friendly atmosphere you will find when you meet the owner, Sam, and his daughter Samantha. Always friendly

and personable, there to give their expert advice or just to open up and have a friendly conversation.

Located in Intercourse Pennsylvania on Route 340, you can find **The Old Candle Barn**, which has been in the Village of Intercourse since 1982, owned by the Hurst family for the past 20 years, has been a staple retail and wholesale spot for locally crafted, hand poured, hand dipped candles, along with potpourri and home decor items and accessories to shed a light on your gift giving needs for the whole family.

Also located in Intercourse, if you still would rather pass up antiques and steins, then head for something a little more to the point, if you'll permit a bad pun, Amish Country will sharpen your retail attention. **Country Knives** is one of the largest knives and edged tool stores along the East Coast, with over 12,000 knives in stock from hundreds of worldwide manufacturers. The Huegel family has been in business since 1976, providing customers with the amazing experience of actually holding the knives and cutlery in their hands prior to buying them.

And finally, rounding out this treatise on non-traditional shopping in Amish Country, this issue's featured cover story, Jake's Country Trading Post, offers a two-building, multi-level shopping experience that includes an outdoor shop stocking planters, statuary, sheds, play sets, and furniture, while bursting at the seams with incredible merchandise inside as well. Purses, shoes, apparel, country living home goods, officially licensed sports stuff, and a lot more items to offer for that hard to fill Christmas lists. 



Lapp's Toys 717-945-5366

Hard to miss on 2220 Horseshoe Rd., just north of route 340 in East Lampeter township, Lapp's Toys is clearly a favorite spot for children's toys and furniture designed and created by the Lapp family. The walk-in shop gives you a clean and well merchandised atmosphere of all of the available "family friendly" handcrafted toys and other gifts available. And the staff are always friendly and willing to assist and answer your question to find that special something that will light up any child's interest and imagination.



Gish's Furniture 717-392-6080

While the business isn't owned by an Amish family, all of the products are created by Amish craftsmen. The Gish family provides a beautiful showroom in which to stage the many fine furniture creations of small Amish workshops. The technology to make the shopping experience easy is there, while the merchandise is as authentic as it gets.

Shopping for Gifts in Amish Country Satisfies the Appetite

By Clinton Martin & Edward Blanchette

If there's one reason why visitors love coming to Amish Country, it is the literal and figurative smorgasbord of foods available here. Many also consider the shopping experience here well worth a visit. For many visitors, it is a combination of both that makes their time here so memorable. Yes, shopping and food are often one in the same in Amish Country.

For starters, take the fact that Amish Country is well-known for making the Shoo Fly Pie famous. There are bakeries, perhaps hundreds of them, located throughout Amish Country that bake the sweet treats. In fact, it seems you can't really call yourself a good country bakery without offering the staple



molasses pie. **Dutch Haven**, which many consider the place where the Shoo Fly Pie legend all started, is still the area's busiest baker of the pies. They make 40,000 (+/-) Shoo Fly Pies annually, some of which are shipped from their bakery to eager customers throughout the country. Dutch Haven is easy to find along Route 30, with swinging windmill arms beckoning.

Of course, there are numerous family farms harvesting the bounty of Amish Country's rich soil. Since 1986, **Kegel's Produce** is the place to go for all things produce, with everything from crisp fresh apples to fresh local veggies. Whether it's a fruit basket or veggie tray, you can probably find all that you need when it comes to produce. And being part of a local farms Co-Op, you're sure to find more local product right at your fingertips.

For the salty, crunchy, snack that satisfies the sweet, salty, savory taste all at once, there's nothing like a good pretzel. **Julius Sturgis Pretzel Bakery**, founded in 1861 and located in Lititz Pennsylvania, is the first commercial

pretzel bakery in America; and the Sturgis Family is the oldest pretzel baking family in America. Here you'll be able to learn about the Sturgis pretzel history & old-fashioned pretzel recipes. Soft pretzels, hard pretzels, and even chocolate covered pretzels, all things pretzels. Along with souvenirs, ideal for gift-giving at this time of year.

And finally, if you think you can't find a cheese to suit your palate in Amish Country, maybe you need to broaden your horizons a bit. You'll need to visit cheese caves in Germany, Italy, France, Holland, not to mention Wisconsin and California. Or of course you could simply taste them all with a visit to the **Town Clock Cheese Shop**. As Amish Country's multi-generation authority on cheese, located in Gap Pennsylvania, Town Clock Cheese Shop provides visitors with a selection of cheeses from all around the world, plus a nice variety of local Lancaster County options too.

There's never a better time to visit Town Clock than now, because their selection is at its largest at this time of year. 



Riehl's Quilts & Crafts 717-656-0697

This farm is one of the more photogenic places in Amish Country. Many scrapbooks contain a photo or two of the "lane" going down into the farm. Quilts, crafts, and other handmade items are available at the well-stocked on-site shop. Rather than convert the barn into a store, they built a shop specifically to display their crafts. Located at 247 East Eby Road, Leola, PA.



Gordonville Bookstore 717-768-3512

Located 1.5 miles off of Rte. 340 on Old Leacock Rd., Gordonville Book Store is a treasure trove of books, as well as other essential writing and teaching needs. They have all the latest novels from Beverly Lewis and Wanda Brunstetter but also carry up and coming authors. Love to dive into the world of the Amish in a good book? Visit Gordonville Book Store. They carry many hard-to-find books, including titles of Anabaptist heritage. Gordonville is also one of the area's best scrapbooking sources. Visit the store at 275 Old Leacock Rd., Gordonville, PA.



Forest Hill Leather Craft 717-656-8758

The shop displays only goods made by the family on site, but there is a grand variety of products, coasters to bags, cases to key chains. Open daily except for Sundays, the shop is easy to find. Located at 225 Forest Hill Road, Bird-in-Hand. Remember that the shop is not actually in the "downtown" of Bird-in-Hand. Through a quirk in the postal service territory, his shop has a Bird-in-Hand address but is actually much closer to Leola.



Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop 717-656-7947

If there's an activity that is synonymous with visiting Amish Country, it is noshing on some delectable baked goods. The Bird-in-Hand Bake Shop on Gibbons Road is one of the area's most well-known and well-loved. The owners happen to be Mennonite, but they employ ladies from all walks of Plain life to knead the dough and sift the flour at their bake shop. To get a bit of this "Old Fashioned Goodness" you can find them located at 542 Gibbons Road, Bird-in-Hand, PA.



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Many of you have been asking and we are pleased to tell you that YES, Koziar's Christmas Village will open in 2020. Opening night is the first Saturday in November, as has been our longstanding tradition.

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Owned and operated by the Koziar's family since 1948 at the family farm in Bernville, PA, the holiday season is always the highlight of our year. Our family



Koziar's Christmas Village

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Covid-19 Info

We know how much friends and family love visiting Koziar's Christmas Village, so in light of COVID-19, we have taken precautions to ensure everyone a safe and enjoyable visit.

In order to keep our employees and other guests safe please do not attend the

village if you are or recently have been sick, had a fever, have cared for or have been exposed to anyone exhibiting symptoms.

We also ask that you observe Pennsylvania travel restrictions and guidelines related to Covid health and safety.

Please keep in mind that Koziar's is subject to Pennsylvania Covid mandates and we are required to follow health and safety precautions to remain open and serve our guests. We have some other important changes for the 2020 season, including Timed Passes and Premium Pricing for select dates. Visit our website at www.koziarschristmasvillage.com for more information and times.

Gifts That Make a Difference

By Clinton Martin

It's a real joy for us at Amish Country News that our Spring Issue should shine a light on the valuable work quietly going on under the radar throughout Amish Country under the auspices of supporting the locally headquartered Mennonite Central Committee. The MCC (as it is fondly known) may call Amish Country its home base, but the humanitarian causes it supports reach out to every corner of the Globe. To learn more about the MCC and its current projects, visit www.mcc.org.

The funds needed to support the MCC come from many different sources, but a large portion are generated right here in our own backyard. Over 12 million dollars of the MCC's annual budget comes from a most unexpected source, a network of Thrift Shops throughout the US and Canada. The largest concentration of MCC-supporting shops is in PA (19 shops) and the largest concentration in PA is, of course, right here in Amish Country (five and counting.)

Each of these shops is independently operated, but shares a common goal of using the profits generated to support the MCC. In



most cases, each shop will only have four or five paid staff people, relying on hundreds of volunteers to keep the stores clean, safe, stocked, and selling. Virtually all the merchandise is taken in by donation, sorted, and displayed for new uses, new homes, and new owners. Items are closely screened and ensured of high quality standards before they hit store shelves.

Putting your shopping genes to work to benefit worldwide humanitarian missions, while scoring some real bargains on unique, useful, and interesting merchandise is a pleasure any time of the year, but it seems even greater during these "spring cleaning" days when all we'd like to do is open the windows and let some fresh air in. So, gather your retail wits, bring a friend, and shop Amish Country's exceptionally unique concept, the Thrift Shop network. A shop-by-shop guide is our pleasure to provide to you. Please note that all of these shops are open Monday-Saturday, and are closed Sundays.

Country Gift and Thrift Shoppe 717.768.3784

For those who have discovered Country Gift and Thrift Shoppe, it is always worth the trip, deep into the heart of the idyllic Amish countryside of Lancaster County. Located along the Old Philadelphia Pike in the quaint village of White Horse, this hidden gem has a loyal following of customers who return, again and again, knowing there is always a large selection of quality merchandise on two separate floors. Items for sale include clothing varieties for the entire family, household goods, home accents, antiques, vintage, books, and much more. Because everything is "priced to sell," the donated stock of items has a quick turn-around time, with new items being added to the racks, stacks, and shelves each day. A number of higher value items are sold competitively through the store's ongoing silent auction. Unique to this location, Country Gift and Thrift plays host to regular "quilting bees," where local Amish and Mennonite ladies regularly convene in the quilting room to quilt

Since graduating from an MCC-supported tailoring program in Juba, South Sudan, in 2013, Anet Konga, right, has established herself as a well-known tailor in her community. *Photo courtesy of Lindsay Linegar.*

beautiful new quilts that are available for sale. Look for spring fashions. The selection grows daily! Visit www.countrygiftandthrift.com

Ephrata Re-Uzit On State 717.733.4934

The small-town of Ephrata embodies the best of downtown Amish Country. This includes some excellent thrift shop bargain browsing at ReUzit on State, located at 1054 S. State Street in Ephrata. ReUzit on State is a nonprofit thrift store benefiting the local community and Mennonite Central Committee. The ReUzit



**Country Gift
— and —
Thrift Shoppe**



On Route 340 in Village of White Horse
5602 Old Philadelphia Pike, Gap 17527
717.768.3784
www.countrygiftandthrift.com
Mon-Fri 9-5 • Sat 9-4 • Closed Sun



**ReUzit
on State**
An MCC Thrift Store



1054 S. State St. Ephrata
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www.reuzitonstate.org
Mon.-Thurs. 9-5 Fri. 9-8 Sat. 9-4 Closed Sun.



**Morgantown Reuzit
THRIFT SHOP**



Just West of Morgantown on Rte 23
2769 Main St. Morgantown
610.286.7233
www.morgantownreuzit.org
Mon-Fri 9-5 • Sat 9-3 • Closed Sun

on State's new location and building makes it easy for folks to donate, has easy parking for shoppers and there is something for every member of the family under one roof.

Shoppers will SNAG GREAT DEALS with quality, gently used merchandise at affordable prices. New items are featured every day in the spacious 20,000 sq. ft. accessible and organized retail space. Men, Children and Women's clothing plus accessories will sure to please a variety of styles, sizes and tastes. Essential housewares will make chores more fun; books, toys, and games will entertain; and linens, home décor and furniture choices help to refresh the home. Antiques and collectibles are treasures just waiting to be found. IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES while shopping and still stay within budget. Purchases and donations are 'gifts to the world' as they support the humanitarian work of Mennonite Central Committee here in the US and in 50 countries around the world. Open Monday – Saturday, 9 am – 5 pm plus open Friday evenings until 8 pm, credit cards accepted. For more information about shopping, donating and volunteering go to www.reuzitonstate.org

Morgantown Re-Uzit Thrift Shop
610.286.7233

Morgantown is often considered the gateway to Amish Country. It is an easy hop and skip off the PA Turnpike, the first welcome to Amish Country many visitors see, and can

be easily reached by visitors in Berks, Chester, and Lancaster Counties. On Route 23 just west of Morgantown, at 2769 Main Street stands a Re-Uzit shop full of thrifty and useful finds. This store has everything for the daily life's necessities. Apparel, décor, home goods, toys, gifts – shop here before you go to a regular retail store. Along with all that we have two auctions running all the time, one is a silent auction and the other is a sealed bid auction. We offer sales every week! You'll probably find what you're looking for, will save money and support a worthy cause in doing so. A great collection of vintage collectibles and antiques is a fun bonus. Visit www.morgantownreuzit.org

The Main Street Closet 717.464.2038

Some visitors might remember the Main Street Closet being in Strasburg, but the store is now located just south of Downtown Lancaster in Willow Street – a five-minute drive from the Double Tree (Willow Valley) Resort. The store has a much larger selection in a much larger store. Experience the excitement of this location. The selection of good used quality items changes almost daily, with a fine assortment of housewares, books, linens, vintage items, crafts, and a huge variety of clothing for the whole family for every season. Heading south out of Lancaster, you'll be heading down Willow Street Pike. Just after passing the Kendig Square Shopping Center off to the left, you'll need to turn left onto W Willow Rd. The parking lot for Main Street Closet is at the intersection of W Willow Rd and N Willow Street Pike. If using a GPS, it is helpful to type in 2842 N Willow St. Pike, Willow Street, PA. Find out more online at www.mainstclocset.org

Re-Uzit Shop of New Holland, Inc. 717.354.8355

About 11 miles west of the Morgantown store, at the intersection of Route 23 and Shirk Road in New Holland is a very special thrift shop. The ReUzit Shop of New Holland, Inc., a Non-Profit Thrift Store, has been located in New Holland, PA for over 40 years. The store is located at 707 West Main Street, New Holland PA and is one of the largest in the State. At this store they have 30,000 square feet of retail space where you can find donated clothing, books, cards, jewelry, furniture, decor and household items. You can find antiques and unique items on our Silent Auction, eBay page and Sealed Bid. Profits from the Re-Uzit Shop of New Holland are sent to the Mennonite Central Committee. MCC provides food, health, school, and relief supplies for people in need locally and throughout the world. This store also donates a portion of its proceeds to many local charities as well. Shoppers have the freedom to shop Monday thru Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.. Visit our website at www.newhollandreuzit.org



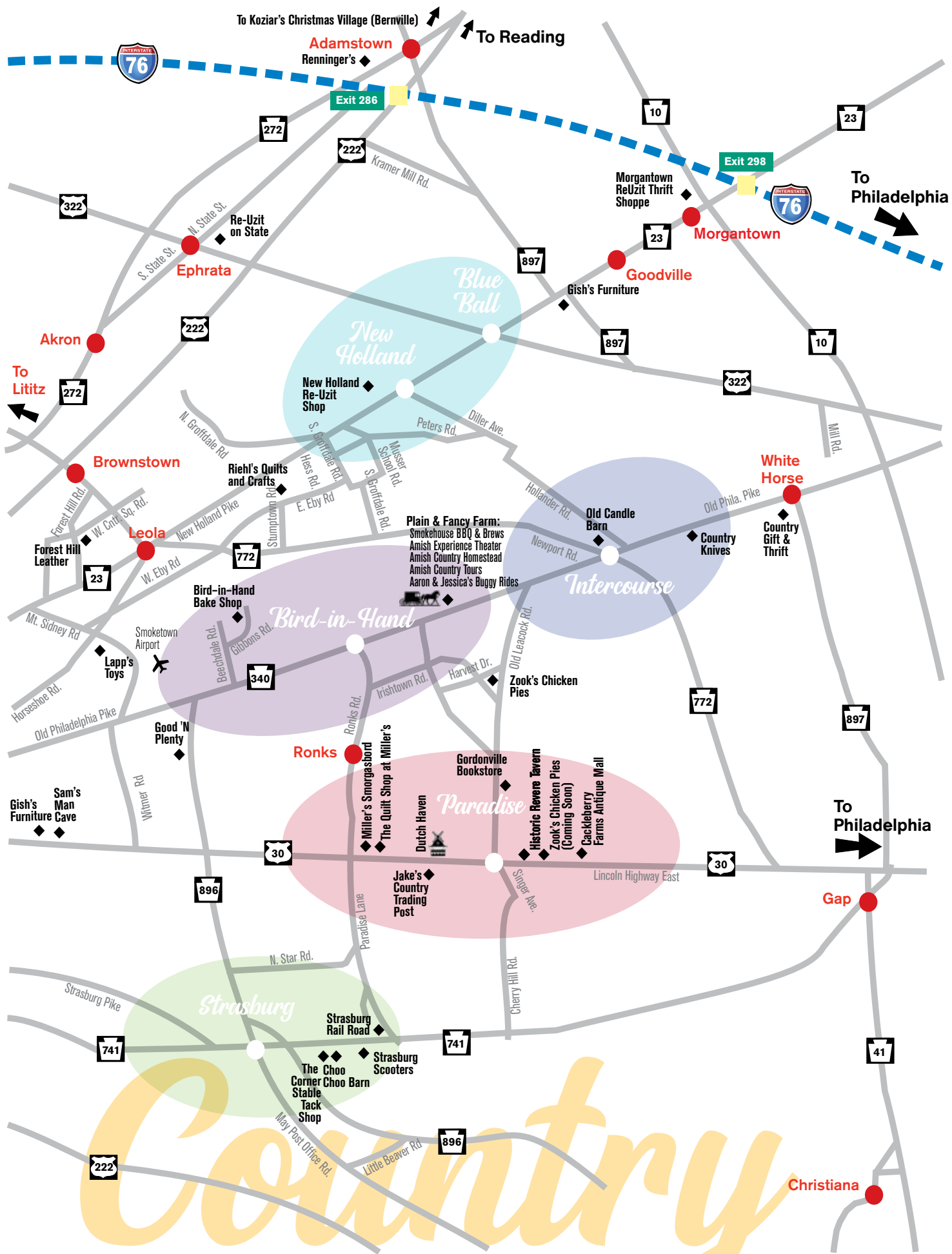

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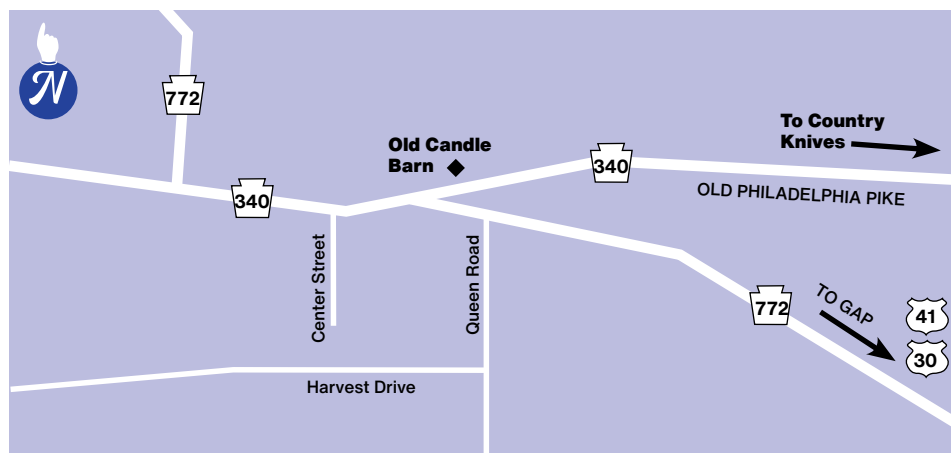
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It's More Than a Name. Intercourse



Probably no other town in Amish Country can claim its fame is owed largely to one simple thing --- its name. For years people have sent letters home with the name stamped boldly on the envelope. Intercourse, PA. There are several explanations for the name, and they are woven into the brief history that follows.

In the beginning, of course, there was very little here, just settlers arriving in the New World from Europe. Back around 1730, the Old Provincial Highway (or Old Philadelphia Pike, Route 340) was laid out to connect Philadelphia with the inland town of Lancaster. Conestoga wagons, pulled by six to eight horses, hauled supplies and freight back and forth between the two cities. Providing rest for travelers and horses, taverns sprouted along the way, becoming centers for news, gossip, and business transactions.

And that is how the town got started when the first building, a log tavern, was constructed in 1754. The Newport Road, a former Indian trail, came from Newport, Delaware to the south, and it is believed that because of these intersecting roads the tavern took "Cross Keys" as its name.

That was true at least until 1814, when it was named Intercourse in a real estate scheme to establish a more sizable town. George Brungard had acquired 48 acres of land north of the roads in 1813. He attempted to lay out a town site and divide it into sections for sale by a lottery, advertising "151 handsome building lots of \$250 each to be drawn for by number."

The newspaper advertisement stressed "the great importance of so many turnpikes and great leading roads intersecting at and near this place." As one writer has noted, in those days "intercourse had a common usage



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referring to the pleasant mutual fellowship and frequent intermingling which was so much more common in the informal atmosphere of the quiet country village of that day."

And this brings us to yet another theory on the town's name. From the east end of town, on a mile long straightaway, horse races were conducted. Since the races began at that end of town, this was the "Enter Course," and this

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name eventually became Intercourse. Indeed, a postal historian, Arthur B. Gregg claims that the town's name was actually changed from "Entercourse" to "Intercourse," and notes that "there was no hesitancy on the part of the United States Post office Department to accept the name 'Intercourse' since it meant a commercial or trading site."

But back to our story and Brungard's scheme. Although lotteries had been used for many years to sell various things, his real estate lottery failed, and most of the land was combined into one tract. More recently, in 1971, another person tried to take advantage of the town's name and sell one-inch square plots of property to visitors. This plan proved to be a flop as well.

In the old days, there were only five houses, counting the inn, and the town grew slowly. But by 1880, Intercourse had 54 homes and a population of 280. Communications improved with the arrival of the post office, and later the telephone.

Getting the first post office up and running was a difficult matter. The main problem was finding a building and someone willing to perform the duties of a postmaster. The first, Benjamin Fraim, performed his duties from the Cross Keys Tavern, and may have had a job working there, since "his income, based on a percentage of the postal transactions for the year ending 1829 was only \$8.21." Over the years the post office moved among stores or restaurants whose owners hoped visits by residents would increase their business.

The local stagecoach service apparently started around 1898. It was "a single horse conveyance similar to a market wagon, with a roll-up curtain and double set of seats." The stagecoach brought items from Lancaster City for local Intercourse businesses, and even picked up milk, butter, and eggs for delivery to Lancaster restaurants and industries, including an ice cream plant. One history of Intercourse notes that when it snowed, a bobsled was used instead. "When the driver knew of passengers beforehand, their comfort was added to by many a hot brick heated the night before in the oven, and wrapped in newspaper to preserve its warmth."

As the days of the dirt road drew to a close, so too did the stagecoach days with the Rowe Motor Truck service started by Coleman Diller in 1910. In 1923 the Penn Highway Transit Company was organized and initiated bus service to Lancaster. It is noted that "many of the Amish residents of the area were anxious to see the line started, but did not care to subscribe to stock. Instead they liberally bought books of tickets which were really prepaid bus fares." By



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1924 enough money was raised to buy a Mack Auto Bus for \$6,800. It held 25 passengers and even had solid rubber tires!

Perhaps the biggest date in Intercourse town history was November Election Day, 1892. Folks arrived at the Cross Keys Tavern, still the social center of town and the place to cast ballots. The political events were soon overshadowed by a cry of "Fire!" A barn fire, possibly started by children playing with matches, soon went out of control. Bells rang and volunteers with buckets came running, but the wind blew sparks to other buildings and the fire spread. Barns, warehouses, homes, and the town store were soon in flames. One story claims the store's watchdog refused to

leave its post and died in the fire. People tried to salvage what they could, piling things along the road. One family cut off the legs of their Grand Piano to remove it from the house. Nearly twenty years later, in 1911, the residents finally formed the Intercourse Fire Company.

There have been some interesting organizations in the town's history. One was the Horse Thief Association of 1870. Annual membership cost 25 cents and rewards were offered. Another was the Intercourse Glider Club, formed in 1931. They bought a glider, and self-taught themselves to fly after being launched via shock-cord or pulled by a car. It is said that in exchange for storing the glider in the firehouse, they polished the engine brass.



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There have always been a lot of businesses in the town in relation to its size. The two well-known stores in town were Wenger's General Store and Zimmerman and Sons. Opened in 1833, Wenger's was the first store in town. Ultimately, it was owned by a family named Worst, resulting in jokes about "the Worst store in Intercourse."

Zimmerman's gained fame when Harrison Ford made a phone call from its porch in the movie WITNESS. In the old days, there was lots of trading, with farmers exchanging items like hides, butter, and even soap for store merchandise. April 1st was the yearly date when each party paid the other whatever the balance was in the exchanges of the year. On more than one occasion the store ended

For the First Time Visitor

Here in Lancaster County, over 39,000 Amish (pronounced Ah-mish, not Ai-mish) serve as living reminders of a quieter time, a time when the horse and buggy was the mode of transportation and families lived and died in the same small communities.

The first Amish, so named for Jakob Ammann, arrived in Lancaster County and nearby Berks and Chester counties in the early 1700s to take part in William Penn's "Holy Experiment" of religious freedom.

Originally called Anabaptists, they came to America from Europe to escape religious persecution by both Protestants and Catholics. The county is now home to three Anabaptist groups called the Amish, Mennonite and Brethren.

In 1525, after the Reformation, a group of Swiss Brethren felt that only adults should be baptized. They met secretly in a member's home and confirmed their faith by re-baptizing each other as adults, even though they had been baptized as infants in the state church. Thus, they became known as Anabaptists, which means re-baptizers.

Because of their beliefs in adult baptism, non-violence, and separation of church and state, they were viewed as "radicals," and thousands were tortured and killed in the following years. Nevertheless, the religion spread into other areas of Europe.



up with too much of an item, and sometimes excess soap and rags were sold to the Lancaster County Prison. Over the years, the store had the town's first mechanical refrigeration, first radio set, and first gasoline pump.

To give you an idea of how the uses of a building changed, the current Country Crossings shop was formerly an International Harvester dealership, barbershop, income tax business, and hardware store.

Just as stores changes, so did occupations. John Bearn, for example, was a village baker, restaurant owner, postmaster, justice of the peace, and electrical inspector!

Since the town never really got to be "too large," it has retained much of its sense of

In time, the different Anabaptist groups became known as Mennists or Mennonites, after the greatest of the Anabaptist leaders, Menno Simons.

It was in the late 1600's that Ammann broke away to form a group that more strictly adhered to the founding beliefs and practices of the first Anabaptists.

The differences between the various Amish, Mennonite, and Brethren groups are in their interpretations of the Bible, their uses of modern technologies such as automobiles and electricity, the values they place on education, their uses of English, and their degrees of interaction with outsiders.

The Amish believe that "worldliness" keeps one from being close to God, so they choose to live without many modern conveniences and technology, such as cars, television, videos, etc. Rather than use electricity from the grid, they have bottled gas stoves and refrigerators.

They do not live in seclusion from the rest of the world. Amish farms can be seen interspersed with modern farms throughout the countryside, and there is much daily interaction between the Amish and the non-Amish ("English") community.

Contrary to popular belief, the Amish do not live the same way they did 300 years ago. They have adopted many things to make life easier, but are careful not to accept new technology without considering its effects on their family and community lifestyle. 

community, from the little public library in a former one-room school to the volunteer fire company.

Surrounded by farms, the town has grown little and retains much of its former charm, even when thousands of visitors descend upon it during the tourist season. Many residents and visitors enjoy the atmosphere of this small town, a place where family, community, religion, and hard work are still important values.

The village of Intercourse has certainly changed over the years, but it has changed slowly, and "sometimes the things that grow the slowest are the ones that endure the longest." 

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An (S) after name denotes Open Sunday.

An * before name denotes coupon.

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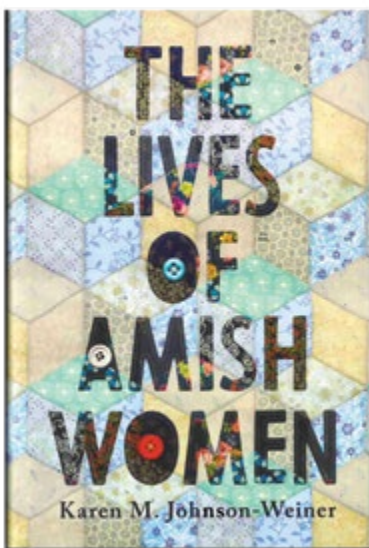
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The Lives of Amish Women – A Welcome Study

By Clinton Martin

It is perhaps a little ironic that the Amish, traditionally uninterested in media exposure, have captivated the world of television, radio, film, and print for so many decades. But, with such well-researched and completely saturated literary coverage there are subject areas that haven't really been delved into very deeply.

The Lives of Amish Women, a new book published Johns Hopkins University Press by author Karen M. Johnson-Weiner, provides an exciting in-depth view of the various aspects of the fairer sex within the Amish community.

Chapter 1 goes all the way back to the beginnings of the Anabaptist movement, and discusses the roles women played in the development of this iconic teaching. As Johnson-Weiner details, "The Amish descend from a radical faction of the Protestant Reformation, a movement that began in October 1517 when Martin Luther posted ninety-five theses to the door of the Wittenburg Cathedral." The Amish trace their roots back to a group of believers that agreed with some aspects of Luther's assertions, but were starkly opposed to others. In particular, the practice of infant baptism put these ancestors of today's Amish at odds with Martin Luther and other contemporary reformers. The term Anabaptist means, literally, "re-baptizer" and was actually coined as a derogatory term for the forefathers of today's Amish.

"From the earliest days of the Anabaptist movement, women were both actively involved and persecuted." Many of these

women who suffered for their Anabaptist beliefs are memorialized in The Martyr's Mirror, an important book still found in most Amish homes today, with nearly a third of all the victims of the religious violence being women.

Chapter 2 of this book discusses what it is like to grow up as a woman in the Amish community, from birth through the teenage years. From the earliest moments of an Amish girl's life, she will be involved with the family and community's workings in an ever-increasing participation, learning by doing alongside older girls and women with tasks being added on according to what is age appropriate. Quite simply, the traditions and "ordnung" – rules of the Amish church – become second nature because they are learned through those close family ties. The Amish teach their children (both girls and boys) to "give up" – but that isn't at all what the English reader might first assume when they see the term. "Uff Gewwe" as it would be spelled in PA Dutch is more akin to learning that you won't always get what you want, when you want it. Life involves patience, sometimes painful, while you work towards a goal.

As girls grow into adolescence their manner of dress changes, they begin wearing the prayer covering (or Kapp in PA Dutch) and finally at the age of 16 they'll join a "gang" (youth group) to run around with other Amish youth who are of dating age, but not yet married. At this time the girls are also contemplating baptism, which is a heavy decision.

"Marriage and Ever After," the title of Chapter 3, is a wonderfully in-depth description of an Amish wedding, as well as married life after the special day. What is expected of an Amish newlywed wife? How does marriage play out in the community? If there is no divorce among the Amish, how do they handle marital strife, which happens in any society – the Amish included. I found it particularly interesting that the young couple might even engage in a little matchmaking of their own, as they assign seating to their unmarried friends at the after-wedding meal so as to perhaps introduce possible matches to each other.

Simply put, this is only the half of it as the rest of the book goes on to explain why the phenomenon of entrepreneurship among Amish women has taken off so greatly in the last two decades, and how tradition continues to play out in the Amish community. The book is a fine addition to any reader of Amish book's library, and it is easy to get a copy. Buy your copy by calling Johns Hopkins University Press' book order hot line 800-537-5487. 



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A Holiday Thank You... Your Support is Invaluable

It's hard to believe that the final issue for the year of 2020 has arrived. This year has seen its share of challenges and uncertainties along the way. Seemingly, to never come to an end, but eventually, it will. Then with a renewed confidence, we start the whole process all over again in 2021. As the team for "Amish Country News" was putting all the components of this issue together. The thought came across my mind, on how to summarize what the theme would be, as this issue covers the months of the holidays and the festivities to follow through those months of November through February.

It's very obvious that Thanksgiving, Christmas, New Year's and Valentine's Day, all fall during those months. But this year's celebrations, based off of current events, may be very different for most people, Amish, Mennonite, and English all included. But one thing has held true throughout this year, we are definitely in this together. And though we may find many people in strong doubt during this year, I have found us to be that much more resilient and closer together, in spite of it all.

I travel often during the year through the Lancaster, Lebanon, and Berks counties of Pennsylvania. I speak to a lot of people along the way, from the people I meet every day, to our Clients and Subscribers that I have had the honor of reaching out to and corresponding with, on a daily basis, both in person and virtually. It brings me to this one conclusion... During those holidays, we focus on being

"thankful" during Thanksgiving, We celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ, that tends to go towards "good will and giving of one's self" and "forgiveness," the New Year's celebration tends to focus on the passage of one year to the next and focuses on "rebirth" and "hope," then finally coming to Valentine's Day, the time of year that we celebrate "love" and "friendship" and the relationships we have and cherish, but also for the new opportunities in making new friends and hopefully making those relationships grow stronger.

So, as I thought more on this subject, I decided that all of those values and qualities should all fall within my messaging to you today. I am thankful to all of the relationships created and for your continued input, friendship and support during this year, and all of the 30 years this magazine has been in publication, for without you, there would not be an "Amish Country News" to look forward to.

I hope that we have treated your relationships and friendships with respect, truth and thoughtfulness throughout the year and look forward to your continued support and patronage in 2021.

My hope is that you all find good health, a positive piece of mind and multiply the love and friendships you have, more than tenfold over the next coming year. But most of all, finding ways to find the forgiveness in each of our hearts for all those that come into our circles of everyday life, that may not always see things the same way that we do or the different levels of expectations we tend to put out there. And finally, thank you all for allowing us here at "Amish Country News" to hopefully share with you a bit of good will, along the way. Lord knows, this is a long journey with each other, I'm thankful we can be together for the ride. Be safe, be well, and stay positive. Until the next issue, may God bless you all. 🐾



Amish Country News

PO Box 414 • Bird-in-Hand • PA 17505
717.768.8400, EXT. 218

www.AmishNews.com

Published by Dutchland Tours Inc.

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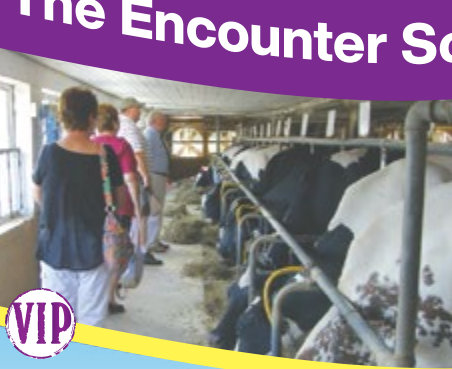
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VIP

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the Amish at Home

V.I.P. stands for "Visit In Person," where you will have the unique opportunity to meet three of our Amish neighbors in a way NEVER before possible.

Stop 1: Amish Farm at Milking Time Observe the milking process. Discover "Amish electricity" as you learn that the Amish do not milk cows by hand.

Stop 2: Amish "Cottage Industry" As land for farming shrinks, more Amish turn to home businesses to balance work and family. For example, we may visit a furniture craftsman, greenhouse, soap artisan, harness shop, canning kitchen, basket weaver, mini-horse farm, or even a carriage maker, for a personal talk and presentation.

Stop 3: Visit An Amish Home We'll go to the home of one of our Amish neighbors for friendly conversation...a chance to sit, chat, and visit the Amish way. It's not surprising that strangers soon become friends.



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